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## TELEPHONE MAIN 861.

Official paper of Clatsop County and the City of Astoria.

## WEATHER.

- Western Oregon and Wash-
- ington—Fair.
- Eastern Oregon, Washington  
and Idaho—Fair and cooler.

## THE FATAL FIFTY-ONE PER CENT.

E. H. Hartman tells the country in the course of a recent speech at Kansas City, that he and his kind are not controlling the railroads of the United States and could not if they would; that such men as he are but the obedient servants of a group of 15,000 stockholders throughout the nation, from whom all policies, all direction, all control emanates. Admitting for the sake of argument, that such a declaration is true, the suspicious fact stares the people in the face, that the vast, complicated and oppressive system of railway government and operation, affecting the rights, liberties and properties of 75,000,000 people are centered in the meager, optional domain of a party handful of their compatriots who to date have evinced no patient interest in their enormous clientele and who are likely to go on amassing all the prerogatives obtainable, a condition of itself, enough to stifle and wear the world. But Mr. Hartman's declaration is false in its initial premise, and every same business man in the country knows just how false it is. The railroads and every other corporate agency in this land of ours is controlled by the infinitely small throng of stock-holders who own fifty-one per cent of any given block of stock, no matter who may represent them in the performance of the plans and policies they ordain. All the sophistry on earth cannot another this literal, universal commercial fact, and Mr. Hartman is a fool for attempting to foist his doctrine of irresponsibility upon the people. If 15,000 or 150,000, or 1,500,000 stockholders own the railroads of America, the beggarly five, ten or a dozen manipulators, who hold the advantageous one per cent beyond the first half of the capitalization, do the best and worst of railway or other corporate administrative work. E. H. Hartman and his kind is the contrary non-withstanding.

## WHAT WE IMPORT.

Imports of farm products were larger in 1901 than any year since 1890, according to a report just issued by the Department of Agriculture on exports and forest products. The value of the exports, however, exceeded that of the imports by more than one-half and there was a balance of trade of \$285,000,000 in favor of the farm products. The report adds that during the last sixteen years the balance of trade for all products was \$3,625,000,000. In 1901 the balance of trade in favor of farm products was the lowest since 1890, due to the falling off in the grain trade and to the increase in the quantities and in the average import price of certain articles imported in large amounts such as sugar, wool, hides, skins, and coffee.

## A FRICTIONLESS CAMPAIGN.

The result of the Citizen's convention in this city on Tuesday night last gave the crowning assurance of a frictionless campaign here in December and in a large measure foreclosed the chance of that election. This is as it should be, and is due, very largely, to the hearty endorsement of Charles H. Abercrombie for the city-attorneyship, the only office around which has gathered any official clout at all during the present session. If the new amendments to the charter prevail in relation to the prolonged terms of the officers who shall be in autho-

rity on the first of January, 1902, there will be no campaigning in Astoria in a local sense until the fall of 1902, and the citizens can give two years uninterrupted devotion to commercial and civic enterprises, to the better good of the community. It is well to get out of political harness now in a while, and if we were to make the character nomination to task for anything whatever in this connection, it would be that it did not fix the date of the municipal election for the first Monday in June rather than the second Wednesday in December, every two years, and in this way should still another election period.

## COURT HOUSE PROSPECTS.

There is every reason to believe that the end of 1901 will see the people of Clatsop county in possession of their beautiful and enduring court house non-with-standing the long-drawn litigation and trouble that has gone before there is practically \$200,000 worth of fine serviceable material now on hand fully paid for, and ready for immediate utilization and it is reported from sources that may be relied upon, that the finishing of the work can be done within the sum of \$25,000, a figure that will still keep the enterprise well within the original estimates.

The careful conservation of the city funds has made it possible for the county court to set aside for this purpose in January and remain within the limit of last year's assessments so that the prospect seems fairly reliable for the realization of this ancient and honorable dream. Good luck to it.

## A DAY THAT DAZED.

Yesterday the sun shone brilliantly the heavens were wonderfully and happily blue; the soft winds out of the northwest barely ruffled the waters of the bay; the days before and after positively gleamed and glimmered and radiated; the community was all smiles and there was an atmosphere of sound business was livelier and the general aspect of things was a distinct revolution after the twenty-six days of gloom and down-trot that have prevailed here during the extraordinary season. It was almost daring to stay out doors so long at a time. But we survive the blessing and will try hard to adapt ourselves to the reaction.

## EDITORIAL SALAD.

Cleveland's T. K. C. & has decided that a multi-millionaire cannot be an honest man.

There are 30,000,000 people facing starvation in the northern part of Central China.

They were engaged while in bathing and now their friends are calling it a swimming match.

Butter as well as eggs is booked to the winter. Look out for 50-cent butter in February.

Canada, too, is going to revise her tariff. Being done by "the friends" the revision will be upwards.

Instead of having a surplus of \$12,000,000 Cuba is found to be in debt to the extent of \$4,000,000.

A Chicago employment agency is advertising for "honest girls." Just as well advertise for old girls.

Anyway the president escaped the news correspondents once in the section of new cabin timber.

Fifty years ago our grandfathers said "Granddaddy." Today we say "Giddy" and one is as bad as the other.

The British government gets an income of \$25,000,000 from the railways, river boats and forests of India.

The hide of a horse weighs about twenty pounds of leather, while that from a cow gives thirty-five pounds.

No young man of today can succeed to any great extent who is not enthusiastic in his business or occupation.

A wretched Indian here there are no women numbered because a woman never was known to die in and stay dead.

The fair weather friends always come in bunches but the friends that come during adversity are rarer and rarer apart.

Some day a automobile government may even undertake to regulate road charges for the benefit of the people at large.

The first plow used in this country were made of cast iron and were invented as from the belief that the metal poisoned the ground.

A fashion item says the new infant skirt reveals the fact that the majority of women are pigeon-breasted or hunched. We had never noticed it.

Lumber companies report that in spite of offers of \$45 a month and

board they are unable to hire as many men as they need. Where are the men? Farmers especially in the open field are eagerly bidding for more help.

## IN THE CITY THEATERS.

## THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.

A number in Chicago says that they are very few parents who are qualified for parenthood. There has been no end of talk as to what the child over the parent but he says the greatest duty is that of the parent to the child.

Tom Logue, a blacksmith residing at Logue's Cross Roads, in the hills of Arkansas, has a wife, Jeannette, whom he dislikes and a little daughter, Grace, who is the prettiest and joy of her mother's heart. They make their home with Tom's parents, Samuel and Sammie Logue, and Tom's brother, who because of an accident received in childhood, is not mentally bright. Jeannette Logue was not worthy of her husband's love and devotion, before her marriage she had lived in New York, where she was known as the Queen of Confidence Women, and it was to avoid arrest for her many transgressions against the law that she had fled to the hills of Arkansas, where she met the man who became her husband, he of course being entirely ignorant of her past career. After two years of married life Jeannette tired of her surroundings and her husband, and longed for the gay life of the city, so at this moment Fred Armada, a drummer, appears upon the scene and urges her to come with him. She is willing to do so, but fears her husband's vengeance and so the pair resolve to kill him. Jeannette calls Tom to the door, the father goes to know her and Armada, thinking it is Tom who is the off-spring who kills Tom. Tom returns and as he is bending over the dead body of his father, he is accused of the murder by Jeannette and her lover, Jim Mason, a drifter, a villain in the infinite but as his own reputation is none of the best, he dares to speak and so Tom is condemned to life imprisonment. Four years elapsed. By the will of Sammie Logue, his grandfather, George is left heir to all the possessions and Jeannette and Armada abdicate the child. Influenced by the masters and mistresses of Sammie's and Sammie's wife, Sammie Logue, whose mild temper and maternal qualities far exceed those recall memories of his overbearing old mother, Dead and gone, George, Nachman comes a full partner to Tom, who at once begins a search for the child, his foolish wife, and the murderer of his father. He finds them at last. Grace is returned to him and the guilty ones receive their just punishment. Such is the story of "The Village Blacksmith" which the Black Swan company will present at the Astoria theater tonight.

As the weeks go by in the marketing of macaroni or durum wheat the demand seems to increase rather than decrease. We believe that it will be only a very few years before the durum wheat will constitute at least one-half the grain supply in America. One company has purchased 800,000 acres of land in Texas which it intends to devote entirely to the kind of wheat. The idea has been held that only Southern Europe would prove a market for macaroni, but now Germany and the Scandinavian countries are bidding for it.

## TESTED AND PROVEN.

There is a Lamp of Science in Being Able to Demand Once a Well-Earned Reputation.

For months astoria readers have seen the constant expression of praise for Dr. King's Elkins Pill and read about the good work that have done in this locality. Not another remnant ever produced such convincing proof of merit.

W. Jenkins, of 428 East Mill St., Portland, Ore., says "I have no occasion to change anything that I said three years ago in recommending Dr. King's Elkins Pill. I believe that other members of our family have found equally beneficial results in treating kidney complaints. Before using Dr. King's Elkins Pill I suffered with acute attacks of rheumatism and a derangement of the action of the kidneys and full dragging pains made it difficult for me to attend to my work. As the result of using this fine remedy I have been free from kidney complaint and rheumatism for over three years, and therefore feel confident in recommending them to others."

Plenty more proof like this from Astoria people. Call at Chas Rogers drug store and ask what his customers say.

For sale by all dealers Price 10 cents. Foster-Wilhams Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States.

Remember the name—Dr. King's—and take no other.

## BLIND TRAVEL TO PORTLAND.

Increases and \$2.50 Round Trip Rate via A. & C. R. R. is Popular.

Travel from this city to Portland in Sunday at the low round trip rate of \$2.50 is on the increase and many enjoy their day in the metropolis each week. This rate will be continued throughout the winter and the volume of travel toward Portland every Sunday would indicate that the public appreciates it.

Wade Happy for Life.

Great happiness came into the home of S. C. Blair, school superintendent, at St. Albans, West Virginia, when his little daughter was restored from the dreadful complaint of rickets. His says: "My little daughter had St. Vitus Dance, which yielded to no treatment but grew steadily worse until a last resort we tried Electric Batteries and I refuse to say three batteries effected a complete cure." Quick, safe cure for nervous complaints, general debility, rickets, rheumatism, inveterated blood and rheumatism. Guaranteed by Chas. Rogers' drug store. Price 10c.

NEW ARTICLES FILED.

SALT LAKE CITY, Nov. 21.—A. G. Clark, acting for the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake Road, yesterday filed amended articles of incorporation for the branch line known as the Las Vegas & Tonopah Railroad. Under the new articles it is proposed to extend the branch line to the Samuels-Greenwood Copper Mining district, lying west of Death Valley in the border of California and Nevada. The total length of the Las Vegas & Tonopah will be over 250 miles.

A Year of Bliss.

The year 1901 will long be remembered in the home of F. N. Tucker, of Alliance, Ky., as a year of bliss which flowed so rapidly from Mr. Tucker's lungs that death seemed very near. He writes: "Since meeting Dr. King's Elkins Pill and a Vaughan Drug Store, I have been free from asthma, which had brought me to death's door, when I began taking Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, with the astonishing result that after taking four bottles I was completely restored and as time has proven permanently cured." Guaranteed by the State Lungs, Coughs and Cold, at Chas. Rogers' drug store. Price 10c.

Some day a automobile government may even undertake to regulate road charges for the benefit of the people at large.

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